

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A laser welding apparatus having a laser source outputting a laser beam and a light transmitting device, chosen from the group consisting essentially of a lightpipe and a lightguide, positioned downstream from the laser source. The light transmitting device transmits the laser beam therethrough. An optical device receives the laser beam exiting the light transmitting device and is operable to converge light lobes exiting the light transmitting device to define a final beam width. The final beam width being narrower than a beam width exiting the light transmitting device.